121.	Jharma.Ghorwani
122.	Damoe
123.	Rekhikol
124.	Nendan- I
125.	Nendan-II
126.	Ghorswani DC

[*English*]

Wax Industry in Bihar

* 408. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wax industry in Bihar is facing crisis due to shortage of raw materials.

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make the raw materials available to the wax industry; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN). (a) to (c). Demand of paraffin Wax far exceeds the indigenous production. To supplement the indigenous availability Government is arranging import from time to time to the extent possible within the constraints of foreign exchange availability.

Purification of Polluted Water

4182. DR. RAVI MALLU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government are aware of biological methods of purifying polluted water discovered by foreign scientists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any research on the subject has been undertaken by the Indian Scientists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF STATES IN THE MINISTRY AND LAW. JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Irregularities in FCI

4183. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Khadya Nigam Mein Teen Crore Ka Ghapla' appearing in Hindi daily "Hindustan" Patna edition, dated January 10, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The allegations made in the newspaper report are under investigation of Food Corporation of India.

[*English*]

Strengthening of Food and Drug Admistrations.

4184. SHRI SANAT MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are working out a comprehensive plan to strengthen the Food and Drug Administrational all over the country;

(b) if so, the broad features of the plan; and

(c) the role assigned to the State Government and that reserved by the Union Government in this-regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The Government have initiated various steps to strengthen the Food and Drug Administration, both at the Central and State levels. These include expansion of prevention of Food Adulteration Units and the Central Drugs Control Organisation at the Centre; additional facilities for the Central Food and Drug Laboratories and providing of central Assistance to the State Government to augment the facilities in the Food and Drug Laboratories. It is also proposed to strengthen the Drug Inspectorate Staff in the States.

(c) Under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules thereunder and also the Drugs and Consmetic Act and Rules thereunder, the role assigned to the Central Government is mainly to lay down standards for Food and Drugs respectively. However, the basis responsibility of enforcement of these Acts and Rules for purposes of issuing of Licences/cancellation of licences, checking of quality of Food and drugs etc. are of the State Governments.

The Drugs and Cosmetic Rules are being amended so that for specified categories of drugs like biologicals, immuno-biological and I. V. Fluids the State Government shall issue licences only with the approval of the Central Government.

[*Translation*]

Welfare Schemes of Tribals With World Bank Assistance

4185. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of the schemes proposed to be executed with the world bank assistance for the welfare of tribals living in the plateau area under the Family Welfare Programmes during 1991-1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Free Rail Travel Passes

4186. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on July 30, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 1012 and state the class-wise number of free travel passes issued since July, 1991?